



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

Oregon State Office  
1300 N.E. 44th Avenue, P.O. Box 2965  
Portland, Oregon 97208

November 1994



---

# Executive Summary

## Western Oregon Proposed Resource Management Plans/ Final Environmental Impact Statements

HD  
243  
.07  
0747  
1994

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interest of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. administration.

BLM LIBRARY  
RS 150A BLDG. 50  
DENVER FEDERAL CENTER  
P.O. BOX 25047  
DENVER, CO 80225

**BLM/OR/WA/PL-94/46+1792**

ID 88045514



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
OREGON STATE OFFICE  
P. O. BOX 2965 (1300 N.E. 44th Avenue)  
PORTLAND, OREGON 97208



IN REPLY REFER TO:

HD  
243  
.07  
0747  
1994

November 1994

Dear Reader:

Attached is an executive summary of six Proposed Resource Management Plans/Final Environmental Impact Statements (PRMPs/FEISs) the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is sending out for public review and comment. These documents address management of over 2.5 million acres of western Oregon Federal lands in the Salem, Eugene, Coos Bay, Roseburg, and Medford BLM Districts and the Klamath Falls Resource Area of the Lakeview District. These plans have been prepared in conformance with land use planning procedures established by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

The public devoted substantial effort to providing in-depth comments on the Draft Resource Management Plans/Environmental Impact Statements (RMPs/EISs). Each district's planning team assessed these comments and utilized the input by making substantive changes in the proposed RMP and strengthening the EIS. We sincerely appreciate the efforts of those who took the time to provide us with their comments. We feel that your efforts will result in stronger and clearer RMPs. The Preferred Alternatives in the Draft RMPs have been revised as a result of public comment, internal review, and the decisions made by the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture following completion of the *Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Habitat for Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl*. These revisions resulted in the refinement of management objectives and management actions in the Proposed Plans.

The end product of this planning process will be the approval of RMPs that will integrate the natural resources and their subsequent uses into a balanced, sustainable approach to management for the next 10 to 15 years. The RMPs will replace and supersede Management Framework Plans (MFPs) prepared in the early 1980s. When completed, the RMPs will establish specific land use allocations and management direction for ecosystem management, and more specifically, for special status species, wildlife habitat, timber harvest, recreation, areas of critical environmental concern, visual resources, cultural resources, energy and minerals management, land tenure adjustments and rights-of-way, and will identify rivers potentially suitable for national wild, scenic or recreational river status.

This executive summary provides the reader with an overview of the total BLM western Oregon planning process and summarizes alternatives in the six plan documents. Copies of individual PRMP/FEISs can be obtained from the issuing BLM district or resource area offices (see list that follows). All comments should be directed to those offices. Protests to any proposed plan should be sent to the BLM Director as described in the cover letter for each plan document.

BLM LIBRARY  
RS 150A BLDG. 50  
DENVER FEDERAL CENTER  
P.O. BOX 25047  
DENVER, CO 80225

Salem District Office  
1717 Fabry Road S.E.  
Salem, OR 97306  
(503) 375-5646

Coos Bay District Office  
1300 Airport Lane  
North Bend, OR 97459  
(503) 756-0100

Eugene District Office  
2890 Chad Drive  
P.O. Box 10226  
Eugene, OR 97440  
(503) 683-6600

Medford District Office  
3040 Biddle Road  
Medford, OR 97504  
(503) 770-2200

Roseburg District Office  
777 N.W. Garden Valley Blvd.  
Roseburg, OR 97470  
(503) 440-4930

Klamath Falls R.A.  
2795 Anderson Ave. Bldg. 25  
Klamath Falls, OR 97603  
(503) 883-6916

Public briefings or meetings will be held in all districts during the comment period. Dates and times of the meetings may be obtained from the district or resource area offices.

Thank you for your interest in the management of BLM-administered lands.

Sincerely,

Elaine Y. Zielinski  
State Director

BLM LIBRARY  
RS 120A BLDG. 80  
DENVER FEDERAL CENTER  
P.O. BOX 2517  
DENVER, CO 80226

# Introduction

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administers the use of a variety of natural resources on over 2.5 million acres in western Oregon (including part of Klamath County).

These western Oregon lands involve an extensive checkerboard and fragmented land ownership pattern and include nearly 2.1 million acres known formally as the Revested Oregon and California Railroad lands (O&C lands); almost 400,000 acres of largely scattered public lands; and about 75,000 acres of reconveyed Coos Bay Wagon Road lands (CBWR lands). Forested lands in western Oregon total about 2,250,000 acres or 88% of the total.

The BLM is in the process of issuing six proposed Resource Management Plans (RMPs) and associated final Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) covering lands it administers in five districts and one resource area in western Oregon. These plans, when approved in final form, will supersede and replace existing management framework plans that have provided overall management direction for these lands since the early 1980's. The RMPs/EISs have been prepared in accordance with BLM planning regulations issued under authority of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, and have been written in accordance with Council on Environmental Quality regulations issued under authority of the National Environmental Policy Act.

The six draft plans and BLM offices that prepared them, are as follows:

Salem RMP, Salem District  
 Eugene RMP, Eugene District  
 Roseburg RMP, Roseburg District  
 Coos Bay RMP, Coos Bay District  
 Medford RMP, Medford District  
 Klamath Falls RMP, Klamath Falls Resource Area of the Lakeview District

The boundaries of each planning area, and BLM-administered lands involved, are shown on the folding map included with this Executive Summary. BLM-administered acreages addressed in each plan are shown in Table 1.

## Overview of Alternatives

For each of the six plans, seven alternatives have been developed to provide a range of responses to major issues identified earlier in the planning process. These issues are: timber production practices; old-growth forests; habitat diversity; threatened and endangered species habitat; special areas; visual resources; stream, riparian and water quality protection; recreation resources, including wild and scenic rivers; land tenure; and rural interface areas.

Of each plan's seven alternatives, five are what we call "common alternatives", which are structured similarly in each district. Another is the "No Action"

**Table 1. BLM-Administered Lands Addressed in Western Oregon RMPs (Acres).**

Plan	O&C Lands	CBWR Lands	Public Domain Lands	Other <sup>1</sup>	Split Estate <sup>2</sup>	Total Surface Management
Salem	344,500	0	53,600	0	27,800	398,100
Eugene	307,200	0	9,500	0	1,400	316,700
Roseburg	391,600	13,900	18,400	0	1,700	423,900
Coos Bay	218,500	60,300	50,500	400	12,200	329,700
Medford	761,200	0	97,900	0	4,700	859,100
Klamath Falls	46,000	0	166,000	0	21,000	212,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,069,000</b>	<b>74,200</b>	<b>395,900</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>68,800</b>	<b>2,539,500</b>

<sup>1</sup>Acquired and Railroad Grant Lands

<sup>2</sup>Federal minerals only

alternative, which would be continuation of existing plans for each planning area. Although these existing plans have some similarities, they also differ in many respects. The final alternative for each plan is the proposed RMP.

Each alternative offers a possible broad course of action that, if selected, would provide guidelines for future, more specific decisions. Site-specific management for various resources, annual timber sale plans, and issuance of rights-of-way, leases or permits will follow the guidelines identified in the RMP. Summaries of the common alternatives and the six proposed RMPs are shown in Table 2. All share common goals of consistency with overriding statutory requirements, but they differ in assumptions about some of those requirements.

Selected land use or resource allocations and effects of the alternatives are compared in Table 3. Analysis of effects of each alternative except the No Action alternative has been facilitated by development of 10-year representative timber management scenarios. These reflect possible timber harvest units, roads and timber management practices during the first ten years of the RMP. These scenarios include different levels of forest management practices, also shown in Table 3.

## The Proposed Resource Management Plans (PRMPs)

The six PRMPs were developed partially in response to public comments related to their August 1992 draft resource management plans for western Oregon. In addition, the proposed plans incorporate the land use allocations and management direction from the 1994 *Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* and its Attachment A (hereafter referred to simply as the ROD). These decisions do not apply, however, to the east side of the Klamath Falls RMP area which will be covered by an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the interagency Eastside Ecosystem Management Project. The record of decision that follows that EIS may modify the decisions for the east side of the Klamath Falls RMP area.

## Vision

The Bureau of Land Management will manage the land and natural resources under its jurisdiction in western Oregon to help enhance and maintain the long-term ecological health of the environment and the sustainable social well being of human populations.

There are several basic principles supporting this vision:

natural resources can be managed to provide for human use and a healthy environment;

resource management must be focused on ecological principles to reduce the need for single resource or single species management;

stewardship, the involvement of people working with natural processes, is essential for successful implementation;

the Bureau of Land Management cannot achieve this vision alone but can, by its management processes and through cooperation with others, be a significant contributor to its achievement; and

a carefully designed program of monitoring, research and adaptation will be the change mechanism for achieving this vision.

## Strategy

Lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management will be managed to maintain healthy, functioning ecosystems while providing a sustainable production of natural resources. This management strategy, titled ecosystem management, involves the use of ecological, economic, social, and managerial principles to ensure the sustained condition of the whole. Ecosystem management emphasizes the complete ecosystem instead of individual components and looks at sustainable systems and products that people want and need. It seeks a balance between maintenance and restoration of natural systems and sustainable yield of resources.

The building blocks for this strategy are comprised of several major land use allocations - Riparian Reserves, Late-Successional Reserves, Adaptive Management Areas, Matrix which includes General Forest Management Areas and Connectivity/Diversity

---

## Table 2. Summary of Alternatives

---

### Proposed Resource Management Plan

This alternative would emphasize ecosystem management. Resources would be managed with an emphasis on retention of late-successional forest, restoration and/or maintenance of watershed conditions, and protection of special status and other species requiring special attention. A system of Late-Successional Reserves would be established. Connectivity/Diversity Blocks would be established to provide dispersal, foraging and/or support habitat and managed by growing forests on long rotations and retaining parts of the stands at harvest. Activities in the General Forest Management Area would emphasize production of timber, but a biological legacy of previous stands would be retained (e.g., green trees, snags and down coarse woody debris). Habitats of threatened and endangered species, species proposed for such status, species with a high potential for federal listing as threatened or endangered, and other species requiring special attention would be protected. Riparian Reserves would be established generally much wider than riparian zones. Management activities in Riparian Reserves would be guided by Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives. The number of Areas of Critical Concern would increase from 25 to 61. Ten river segments would be found suitable for designation as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Visual resources would be protected in selected scenic and/or sensitive areas. Recreation management would provide a wide range of facility-dependent and dispersed recreation opportunities, with emphasis on dispersed activities. Special forest management practices would be considered for BLM-administered land in rural interface areas (i.e., adjacent to or near private lands zoned for small (primarily 1 to 20 acre) lots).

### No Action

This alternative would not change the BLM management direction established in the current management framework plans. The exception is where Congress has enacted legislation prescribing different management direction for specific geographic areas or transferred specific lands to the administration or ownership of other parties. The no action alternative would emphasize the contribution of timber production to community stability consistent with a variety of other land uses. Large and small blocks of older forest would be retained to contribute to ecological functions important to timber productivity. Habitat of threatened and endangered species and species proposed for such status would be protected. Other special status species would be protected to the extent consistent with high timber production. Timber harvest would not be planned in riparian zones of important waters. All existing areas of critical environmental concern would be retained. Recreation management would provide a range of facility-dependent and dispersed recreation opportunities.

### Alternative A

This alternative would emphasize a high production of timber and other economically important values on all lands to contribute to community stability. It would produce the highest sustained yield of timber on all suitable forest lands legally available for harvest. It would manage threatened and endangered species habitat and habitats of species proposed for such status as legally required, and protect habitats of other species with high potential for listing known only to exist on BLM-administered lands. Riparian zones would be managed according to requirements of Oregon's adopted statewide water quality management plan for forest practices and water quality criteria and guidelines. Visual resources would be managed as inventoried in congressionally designated areas and other areas unavailable for timber management (e.g., extensive fragile areas and riparian management areas). Recreation management would provide existing high use recreation sites and trails and emphasize dispersed motorized recreation opportunities.

### Alternative B

This alternative would emphasize the contribution of timber production on Oregon and California Revested Railroad lands to community stability, consistent with a variety of other land uses. Public domain lands with nontimber values and uses of greater importance than timber production would be managed primarily for those values and uses. A system of older forest seral stage blocks would be retained to contribute to ecological

---

**Table 2. Summary of Alternatives (continued)**

---

**Alternative B (continued)**

functions important to timber productivity. Habitat of threatened and endangered species and species proposed for such status would be protected. Other special status species would be protected to the extent consistent with high timber production. Timber harvest would not be planned in riparian zones of important waters. There would be 58 areas managed as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern. Four river segments would be found suitable for designation as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Visual resources would be managed as inventoried in selected scenic and/or sensitive areas and areas unavailable for timber management. Recreation management would provide a wide range of facility-dependent and dispersed recreation opportunities. Special forest management practices would be considered for BLM-administered lands in managed rural interface areas.

**Alternative C**

This alternative would emphasize retention and improvement of biological diversity while providing a sustained yield of timber to contribute to community stability. A system of old-growth and mature forest blocks would be established, focusing on the largest remaining areas of old-growth forest habitat. On lands available for timber production, biological diversity would be promoted by growing forests on long rotations, maintaining stands at low densities, and retaining parts of the stands at harvest. Habitats of threatened and endangered species, species proposed for such status, and species with a high potential for federal listing as threatened or endangered would be protected. Other special status species would be protected primarily through an emphasis on biological diversity. Timber harvest would not be planned in or immediately adjacent to riparian zones of important waters. There would be 91 areas managed as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern. Eleven river segments would be found suitable for designation as components of the national system. Visual resources would be protected in selected scenic and/or sensitive areas and in areas unavailable for timber harvest. Recreation management would provide a wide range of facility-dependent and dispersed recreation opportunities, with emphasis on dispersed activities. Special forest management practices would be considered for BLM-administered lands in managed rural interface areas.

**Alternative D**

This alternative would emphasize management for plant and animal habitat diversity, dispersed nonmotorized recreation opportunities, and scenic resources. It would include a variety of other resource values or uses including some timber production. Spotted owl habitat would be protected in accordance with the report titled Conservation Strategy for the Northern Spotted Owl. Other special status species would be protected. Timber harvest would not be planned in and adjacent to riparian zones of important waters or their immediate tributaries. There would be 96 areas managed as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern. Nine river segments would be found suitable for designation as components of the national system. Visual resources would be managed as inventoried. Special timber harvest and forest management practices would be applied in managed rural interface areas.

**Alternative E**

This alternative would emphasize protection of older forests and management and enhancement of values or uses such as dispersed, nonmotorized recreation opportunities and scenic resources. All forest stands 150 years and older and all suitable spotted owl habitat within two miles of known sites would be retained. Special status species would be protected. Timber harvest would not be planned in and adjacent to riparian zones. There would be 119 areas managed as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern. Seventy nine river segments would be found suitable for designation as components of the national system. Visual resources would be managed at levels higher than actual visual resource inventory classes. Special timber harvest and forest management practices would be applied on BLM-administered lands in large managed rural interface areas.

---

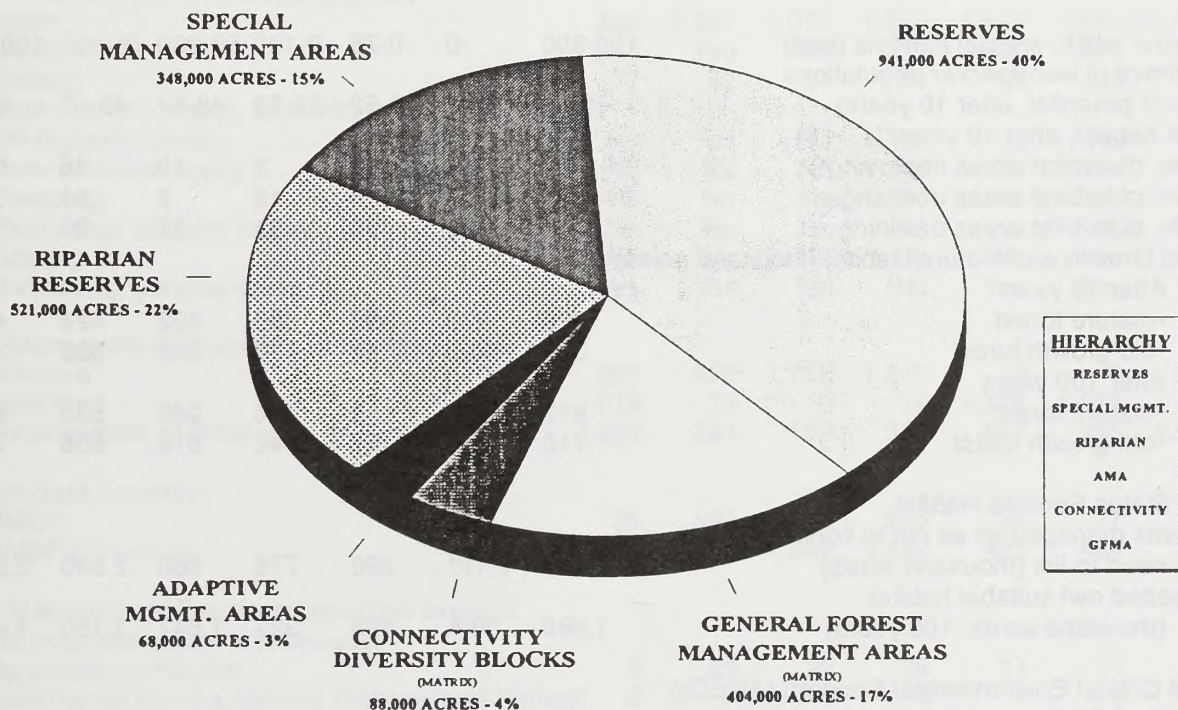


Blocks, and a variety of special purpose management areas such as recreation sites, wild and scenic rivers, and visual resource management areas. These land use allocations have differing management direction and are located and configured in the landscape to support overall ecosystem function and to meet the vision for management of federal lands in western Oregon.

The major land allocations are displayed in Figure 1 and the folding map included with this Executive Summary. Figure 1 identifies the acres of the allocations hierarchically, so that the acres shown for each allocation do not duplicate any acres for any categories shown earlier in the hierarchy list. These allocations do not include the east side of the Klamath Falls Resource Area.

## PROPOSED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANS

### MAJOR LAND ALLOCATIONS



Reserves (Late-Successional Reserves, Residual Habitat Areas, and District Designated Reserves)	941,000 acres - 40%
Special Management Areas (Congressionally designated areas, recreation sites, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, threatened and endangered species sites (other than spotted owl and marbled murrelet) and lands classified not suitable for timber harvest due to soil or reforestation problems)	348,000 acres - 15%
Riparian Reserves	521,000 acres - 22%
Adaptive Management Areas	68,000 acres 3%
Connectivity/Diversity Blocks	88,000 acres - 4%
General Forest Management Areas	404,000 acres - 17%

**Figure 1. Proposed Resource Management Plans - Major Land Allocations**

**Table 3. Major Land Use or Resource Allocations and Actions on BLM-administered Lands and Summary of Effects, by Alternative.**

	Alternative						
	PRMP <sup>1</sup>	NA <sup>2</sup>	A	B	C	D	E
Air Quality (thousand tons of fuel burned annually in prescribed fires, 10 years) <sup>3</sup>	246	380	442	432	249	225	190
Water Quality and Riparian Zones							
Riparian Management Areas/Reserves (thousand acres)	1,213	75	103	124	173	297	394
Riparian trend (200 years)	+	-	-	+	+	+	+
Wildlife							
Buffer width, special habitats (feet)	100-300	0	0-75	0-100	50-200	75-300	100-400
Dominant woodpecker populations (% of potential, after 10 years)	40-65	38-57	0-52	38-53	48-64	49-65	49-63
Elk habitat, after 10 years (+, -, 0)							
•No. of habitat areas improving <sup>4</sup>	31	0	1	3	10	15	017
•No. of habitat areas unchanged	30	9	8	10	8	31	35
•No. of habitat areas declining.	14	66	66	62	37	29	23
Old Growth and Mature Habitat (thousand acres) <sup>5</sup>							
After 10 years							
•mature forest	399	330	392	380	422	424	438
•old-growth forest	336	205	142	193	342	335	382
After 100 years							
•mature forest	817	200	133	194	945	586	697
•old-growth forest	718	298	137	242	618	506	773
Special Status Species Habitat							
Areas managed so as not to contribute to need to list (thousand acres)	2,540	2,118	290	776	960	2,540	2,540
Spotted owl suitable habitat (thousand acres, 100 years)	1,680	N/A	198	339	1,647	1,155	1,463
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs)							
RNAs/ACECs							
•number	34	17	2	24	35	35	34
•thousand acres	17	6	1	11	21	21	18
Other ACECs							
•number	61	25	6	34	56	61	85
•thousand acres	39	15	2	19	124	137	169
Visual Resource Management (thousand acres)							
VRM Class I	29	48	35	42	42	42	11
VRM Class II	199	129	88	180	337	621	1,101
VRM Class III	587	262	110	222	458	541	1,320
VRM Class IV	1,735	2,085	2,304	2,094	1,701	1,335	0
Wild and Scenic Rivers (segments found suitable as)							
Wild (no./miles)	4/20	0	0	0	0	2/5	36/113
Scenic (no./miles)	1/11	0	0	0	2/12	4/33	10/76
Recreational (no./miles)	5/97	0	0	4/39	5/50	5/46	33/551

**Table 3. Major Land Use or Resource Allocations and Actions on BLM-administered Lands and Summary of Effects, by Alternative. (continued)**

	Alternative						
	PRMP <sup>1</sup>	NA <sup>2</sup>	A	B	C	D	E
<b>Socioeconomic Conditions, Western Oregon (10 years)</b>							
Jobs dependent on BLM management	3,930	13,236	16,982	15,442	6,078	6,382	4,920
Personal income dependent on BLM management (millions of dollars)	66	257	333	302	108	116	89
Average annual O&C receipts distributed to counties (millions of dollars)	26	130	169	154	48	54	40
<b>Recreation</b>							
OHV Designations (thousand acres)							
•Open	623	3,201	2,053	1,978	1,540	1,049	1,019
•Limited	1,840	190	436	497	906	1,485	1,749
•Closed	77	42	51	64	94	124	141
<b>Recreation Use (10 years), capability to meet demand<sup>6</sup></b>							
•Off-highway travel	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
•Non-motorized travel	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
•Camping	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
•Picnicking, studying nature	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
•Boating	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
•Swimming, general waterplay	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Timber Management Allocations (thousand acres)</b>							
Intensive	287	1,608	1,795	1,615	0	0	348
Restricted	218	73	0	14	1,375	1,075	197
Enhancement of other uses or not available	1,633	364	182	375	687	996	1,536
<b>Probable Sale Quantity</b>							
MMCF	35	192	251	225	69	77	56
MMBF (10 years)	211	1,176	1,592	1,433	423	464	339
<b>Timber Management Practices (assumed average annual thousand acres, first decade)</b>							
Regeneration harvest	4	23	29	26	11	11	7
Commercial thinning/density management harvest	5	7	4	4	7	3	2
Prescribed fire <sup>3</sup>	17	19	17	7	7	5	
Stand maintenance/protection	13	31	36	34	18	18	12
Release/pre-commercial thinning	19	24	23	21	17	12	6
Brushfield/hardwood conversion	0.2	0.7	2.2	2.4	0.7	1.5	0.5
Planting regular stock	1.6	12	17	14	6	1.6	1.4
Planting genetically selected stock	4	15	17	17	7	10	7
Fertilization	11	33	31	30	22	14	9
New road construction (annual miles)	60	157	177	166	121	124	58
<b>Energy and Minerals (thousand acres)</b>							
Areas closed to mining claim location and operation	99	49	50	64	101	115	145
Areas closed to oil and gas and geothermal leasing	30	30	30	30	30	30	30

<sup>1</sup>PRMP = Proposed Resource Management Plan

<sup>2</sup>NA = No Action Alternative

<sup>3</sup>Tons of slash burned correlates directly with the level of emissions.

<sup>4</sup>Only areas where BLM administers substantial acreage were analyzed.

<sup>5</sup>For all alternatives but the PRMP, projections begin from a 1990 baseline; PRMP projections are made from a lower baseline, updated to reflect timber sales through 1992.

<sup>6</sup>For uses not listed, demand would be met under all alternatives, or BLM-administered lands have limited relevance.

N/A = Not Available (Not Calculated)

MMCF = million cubic feet

MMBF = million board feet (Scribner short log)

Each land use allocation will be managed according to specific objectives and management actions/direction. During initial implementation of the plan, the stated objectives and management actions/direction will provide the direction and limits governing actions and the principles specifying the environmental conditions or levels to be achieved and maintained. As BLM gains experience in implementing the plan and applying the concepts of adaptive management, the stated objectives and management actions/direction will be refined for specific geographic areas.

There are two major management concepts underlying the plan - Ecological Principles for Management of Late-Successional Forests and the Aquatic Conservation Strategy.

## Ecological Principles for Management of Late Successional Forests

One goal of the proposed plans is to maintain late-successional and old-growth species habitat and ecosystems on federal lands. A second goal is to maintain biological diversity associated with native species and ecosystems in accordance with laws and regulations.

All land use allocations described in the proposed plans will contribute to these two goals. For instance, Late-Successional and Riparian Reserves and many special management areas (e.g., areas of critical environmental concern) will be managed to enhance and/or maintain late-successional forest conditions. The General Forest Management Area and Connectivity/Diversity Blocks will be managed to retain late-successional forest legacies (e.g., coarse woody debris, green trees, snags, and late-successional forest patches).

## Aquatic Conservation Strategy

The Aquatic Conservation Strategy was developed to restore and maintain the ecological health of watersheds and aquatic ecosystems contained within them on public lands. The strategy will protect salmon and

steelhead habitat on federal lands managed by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management within the range of the Pacific Ocean anadromy.

The Aquatic Conservation Strategy is designed to meet the following objectives:

Maintain and restore the distribution, diversity, and complexity of watershed and landscape-scale features to ensure protection of the aquatic systems to which species, populations and communities are uniquely adapted.

Maintain and restore spatial and temporal connectivity within and between watersheds. Lateral, longitudinal, and drainage network connections include floodplains, wetlands, up slope areas, headwater tributaries, and intact refugia. These lineages must provide chemically and physically unobstructed routes to areas critical for fulfilling life history requirements of aquatic and riparian-dependent species.

Maintain and restore the physical integrity of the aquatic system, including shorelines, banks, and bottom configurations.

Maintain and restore water quality necessary to support healthy riparian, aquatic, and wetland ecosystems. Water quality must remain in the range that maintains the biological, physical, and chemical integrity of the system and benefits survival, growth, reproduction, and migration of individuals composing aquatic and riparian communities.

Maintain and restore the sediment regime under which an aquatic ecosystem evolved. Elements of the sediment regime include the timing, volume, rate, and character of sediment input, storage, and transport.

Maintain and restore instream flows sufficient to create and sustain riparian, aquatic, and wetland habitats and to retain patterns of sediment, nutrient, and wood routing (i.e., movement of woody debris through the aquatic system). The timing, magnitude, duration, and spatial distribution of peak, high, and low flows must be protected.

Maintain and restore the timing, variability, and duration of floodplain inundation and water table elevation in meadows and wetlands.

Maintain and restore the species composition and structural diversity of plant communities in riparian

zones and wetlands to provide adequate summer and winter thermal regulation, nutrient filtering, appropriate rates of surface erosion, bank erosion, and channel migration and to supply amounts and distributions of coarse woody debris sufficient to sustain physical complexity and stability.

Maintain and restore habitat to support well-distributed populations of native plant, invertebrate, and vertebrate riparian-dependent species.

The components of the Aquatic Conservation Strategy are Riparian Reserves, Key Watersheds, watershed analysis, and watershed restoration.

## Riparian Reserves

See Riparian Reserves on page 12.

## Key Watersheds

A system of Key Watersheds that serve as refugia is crucial for maintaining and recovering habitat for at-risk stocks of anadromous salmonids and resident fish species. These refugia include areas of high quality habitat and areas of degraded habitat. Key Watersheds with high quality conditions will serve as anchors for the potential recovery of depressed stocks. Those of lower quality habitat have high potential for restoration and will become future sources of high quality habitat with the implementation of a comprehensive restoration program.

There are two types of Key Watersheds - Tier 1 and Tier 2. Tier 1 watersheds contribute directly to conservation of at-risk anadromous salmonids, bull trout, and resident fish species. They also have a high potential of being restored as part of a watershed restoration program. Tier 2 watersheds do not contain at-risk fish stocks, but they are important sources of high quality water.

Key Watersheds overlay portions of all land use allocations and place additional management requirements or emphasis on activities in those areas.

## Watershed Analysis

Watershed analysis is one of the principle analyses that will be used to meet ecosystem management objectives of these RMPs. Watershed analyses will

be the mechanism to support ecosystem management at approximately the 20 to 200 square mile watershed level.

Watershed analysis will focus on collecting and compiling information within a watershed that is essential for making sound management decisions. It will be an analytical process, not a decision-making process with a proposed action requiring NEPA documentation. It will serve as a basis for developing project-specific proposals, and determining monitoring and restoration needs for a watershed. Project-specific NEPA planning will use information developed from watershed analysis. For example, if watershed analysis shows that restoring certain resources within a watershed could contribute to achieving Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives, then subsequent decisions will need to address that information.

## Watershed Restoration

Watershed restoration will be an integral part of a program to aid recovery of fish habitat, riparian habitat, and water quality. The most important components of a watershed restoration program are control and prevention of road-related runoff and sediment production, restoration of the condition of riparian vegetation, and restoration of in-stream habitat complexity. Other restoration opportunities include meadow and wetland restoration and mine reclamation.

## Major Land Use Allocations

There are four major allocations derived from the ROD: Riparian Reserves, Late-Successional Reserves, Adaptive Management Areas, and Matrix. Each is discussed in succeeding sections. Two of the allocations in the ROD, Congressionally Reserved Areas and Administratively Withdrawn Areas, recognize existing and proposed BLM management. These allocations include an existing wilderness area, research natural areas, outstanding natural areas, areas of critical environmental concern, wild river corridors, recreation sites, and forested areas excluded from timber harvest due to fragility or reforestation problems. In the plan documents, they are collectively called special management areas.

# Riparian Reserves

Riparian Reserves support Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives and provide habitat for special status species and ROD special attention species.

There are approximately 1,213,000 acres of Riparian Reserves. Calculation of these acres is based on prescribed widths and estimated miles of stream in the various categories described in the ROD. The widths are intended to provide a high level of fish, wildlife and plant habitat and riparian protection until watershed and site analysis can be completed.

Although Riparian Reserve boundaries on permanently flowing streams may be adjusted, they are considered to be the approximate widths necessary for attaining Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives.

Riparian Reserves consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to the top of the inner gorge, or to the outer edges of the 100-year floodplain, or to the outer edges of riparian vegetation, or to a distance initially calculated as follows, whichever is greatest:

*Fish-bearing streams:* equal to the height of two site-potential trees, or 300 feet slope distance (600 feet total, including both sides of the stream channel).

*Permanently flowing non-fish-bearing streams:* equal to the height of one site-potential tree, or 150 feet slope distance.

*Seasonally flowing or intermittent streams, wetlands less than one acre, and unstable and potentially unstable areas:* equal to the height of one site-potential tree, or 100 feet slope distance.

In the last case and in the following ones, Riparian Reserves include the extent of unstable and potentially unstable areas, and the extent of the wetland or water body. In the following ones they also include the extent of seasonally saturated soil, and distances initially calculated as follows, whichever is greatest:

*Constructed ponds and reservoirs, and wetlands greater than one acre:* equal to the height of one site-potential tree, or to 150 feet slope distance from the edge of a wetland greater than one acre or the maximum pool elevation of constructed ponds and reservoirs.

*Lakes and Natural Ponds:* equal to the height of two site-potential trees, or 300 feet slope distance.

As a general rule, management actions/direction for Riparian Reserves prohibit or regulate activities that retard or prevent attainment of Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives. Watershed analysis and appropriate National Environmental Policy Act compliance will be required to change Riparian Reserves in all watersheds.

Timber harvest, including fuelwood cutting, will be precluded in Riparian Reserves, with the exception of salvage if it is required to attain Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives after catastrophic events, or when watershed analysis determines that present and future woody debris needs are met and other Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives are not adversely affected.

Silvicultural practices will be applied in Riparian Reserves to control stocking, reestablish and manage stands, and acquire desired vegetation characteristics needed to attain Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives.

New roads in Riparian Reserves will be designed to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives.

## Late-Successional Reserves

Late Successional Reserves will be established to protect and enhance conditions of late-successional and old-growth forest ecosystems, which serve as habitat for late-successional and old-growth forest-related species including the northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet; and to maintain a functional, interacting, late-successional and old-growth forest ecosystem.

There are approximately 892,000 acres of BLM-administered land in specifically identified Late-Successional Reserves, over half of which are also in Riparian Reserves. The five components of this Late-Successional reserve system are:

- **Mapped Late-Successional Reserves:** These reserves incorporate Key Watersheds to the extent practicable; some or parts of the most ecologically significant late-successional forests identified by the Scientific Panel on Late-Successional Forest Ecosystems; and some or parts of the Designated Conservation Areas from the Final Draft Spotted Owl Recovery Plan.

- Late-Successional/Old Growth 1 and 2 areas within Marbled Murrelet Zone 1, as mapped by the Scientific Panel on Late-Successional Forest Ecosystems.
- Occupied Marbled Murrelet Sites.
- Known Spotted Owl Activity Centers (as of January 1, 1994).
- Protection Buffers for Special Status Species and ROD Special Attention Species.

See map 2 (Proposed RMP Strategy) for locations of Late-Successional Reserves. Occupied marbled murrelet sites, known spotted owl activity centers, and protection buffers are unmapped.

Silvicultural treatments that are beneficial to the creation of late-successional habitat will be conducted inside Late-Successional Reserves.

If needed to create and maintain late-successional forest conditions, thinning operations will be conducted in forest stands up to 80 years of age. This will be accomplished by precommercial or commercial thinning of stands regardless of origin (e.g., planted after logging or naturally regenerated after fire or blowdown).

Salvage of dead trees in Late-Successional Reserves will be limited to areas where stand-replacing events exceed ten acres in size and canopy closure has been reduced to less than 40 percent. All standing live trees, including those injured (e.g., scorched) but likely to survive, will be retained, as well as snags that are likely to persist until late-successional forest conditions have developed and a new stand is again producing large snags.

## Adaptive Management Areas

Adaptive Management Areas were created as places to develop and test new management approaches to integrate and achieve ecological and economic health and other social objectives. They also are intended to contribute substantially to the achievement of ROD objectives, including provision of well-distributed late-successional habitat outside reserves; retention of key structural elements of late-successional forests on lands subjected to regeneration harvest; restoration and protection of riparian zones; and provision of a stable timber supply.

There are approximately 230,000 acres of BLM-administered land in Adaptive Management Areas. Some 59,000 acres of that land is considered available for planned timber harvest.

A plan will be developed for each Adaptive Management Area. Management activities in the Adaptive Management Areas will proceed while the plans are being developed.

## Matrix (Connectivity/Diversity Blocks and General Forest Management Area)

The lands in the Matrix are expected to:

- Produce a sustainable supply of timber and other forest commodities.
- Provide connectivity (along with other allocations such as Riparian Reserves) between Late-Successional Reserves.
- Provide habitat for a variety of organisms associated with both late-successional and younger forests.
- Provide for important ecological functions such as dispersal of organisms, carryover of some species from one stand to the next, and maintenance of ecologically valuable structural components such as down logs, snags, and large trees.
- Provide early-successional habitat.

In the Matrix, there are approximately 404,000 acres of BLM-administered land in the General Forest Management Area and 88,000 acres in Connectivity/Diversity Blocks. Connectivity/Diversity Blocks vary in size and are distributed throughout the Matrix.

Timber harvest and other silvicultural activities will be conducted in the operationally feasible portion of the Matrix with suitable forest lands. Management direction is summarized in the Timber Resources section later in this summary.

Timber harvest will be conducted so as to provide a renewable supply of large down logs, well distributed across the Matrix landscape in a manner that meets the needs of species and provides for ecological functions. Down logs will reflect the species mix of the original stand.

Green trees and snags will be retained throughout the General Forest Management Area. Snags will be retained within a timber harvest unit at levels sufficient to support species of cavity-nesting birds at 40 percent of potential population levels. On BLM-administered lands north of Grants Pass (including the Coos Bay District), 6 to 8 large green conifer trees per acre will be retained in regeneration harvest units. In addition, green trees will be retained for snag recruitment in timber harvest units where there is an identified, near-term (less than 3 decades) snag deficit. These trees do not count toward green-tree retention requirements. On most BLM-administered lands south of Grants Pass, 16 to 25 large green trees per acre will be retained in regeneration harvest units. The exception is the east side of the Klamath Falls RMP area, where 5 to 10 trees per acre will be retained.

Connectivity/Diversity Blocks will be spaced throughout the Matrix in BLM administered lands north of Grants Pass (including the Coos Bay District). They will be managed to maintain 25 to 30 percent of each block in late-successional forest at any point in time. Riparian Reserves and other allocations with late-successional forest count toward this percentage.

In fifth field watersheds (20 to 200 square miles) in which federal forest lands are currently comprised of 15 percent or less late-successional forest, all remaining late-successional forest stands will be retained.

## Air Quality

Efforts to meet National Ambient Air Quality Standards, Prevention of Significant Deterioration goals, and the visibility protection plan will continue. Activities will be conducted so as to maintain and enhance air quality and visibility in a manner consistent with the Clean Air Act and the Oregon State Implementation Plan.

Smoke emissions will be controlled in order to meet State targets for reducing emissions from historical levels. This will be accomplished by planning, conducting, monitoring, and, if necessary, adjusting prescribed fire activities in accordance with the State Implementation Plan and the Oregon Smoke Management Plan.

The potential for wildfire emissions will be reduced through the use of prescribed fire and other fuels management techniques.

## Water and Soils

The Aquatic Conservation Strategy and Riparian Reserve management, previously discussed, are the main elements of water and soils management.

In addition, management will comply with state water quality requirements to restore and maintain water quality to protect recognized beneficial uses, and will strive to improve and/or maintain soil productivity.

Soil and water conditions will be improved and/or maintained by closing selected areas to off-highway vehicle use and/or limiting such use to existing or designated roads and trails. See the Recreation section later in this summary, for additional details.

BLM will continue to implement a nonpoint source management program in cooperation with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. Coordination with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality for implementation of best management practices which protect beneficial uses of water will also continue.

Consistency of management activities with Oregon's **Statewide Water Quality Management Plan** for forest practices and with Oregon's water quality criteria and guidelines (Oregon Administrative Rule 340-41) will be ensured.

Flood plains and wetlands will be protected in accordance with Executive Orders 11988 and 11990 and BLM's **Riparian-Wetlands Initiative for the 1990s**.

## Wildlife Habitat

Late-Successional Reserve, Riparian Reserve and Matrix management all contribute to management of wildlife habitat. Management will be directed to enhance and maintain biological diversity and ecosystem health in order to contribute to healthy wildlife populations. Management for BLM Special Status and ROD Special Attention Species Habitat (discussed later) also addresses many wildlife species.

In recent (1992) compilations of current adjusted inventories, about 346,000 acres (16 percent) of the BLM-administered forest land were identified as having old-growth (200-year-old) stands, which are a particularly scarce wildlife habitat. Proposed man-



agement would retain about 336,000 acres of old-growth forest after 10 years and provide about 718,000 acres of old growth if the plans were continued for 100 years.

The most recent estimates of old-growth forest remaining on publicly owned lands in the region (western Oregon and Washington) indicate that there are about four million acres. About 2.3 million acres are in Oregon. Regional estimates of old-growth forest existing in the early 1800s, before the forests were substantially affected by white settlers, cluster around 20 million acres, some 60 to 70 percent of all forest land in the region. Prehistorically, this number would have fluctuated with the incidence of major stand-replacing fires.

Although the Forest Service has not yet calculated the acreage of old-growth stands on National Forests in western Oregon that would be retained under the SEIS ROD, comparison of analyses in the SEIS and in the Forest Service's 1992 spotted owl EIS suggests that it would be approximately 1.5 million acres. In the long term, throughout western Oregon the cumulative effect of all Forest Service and BLM management would be retention of approximately 1.8 million acres of existing old growth forest, plus a substantial increase from current levels over the next 100 years as currently mature stands age.

## Fish Habitat

Streams flowing from BLM-administered lands in western Oregon provide a substantial share of the

state's spawning and rearing habitat for salmon, steelhead and resident trout. About 1,020 miles of streams on BLM-administered land are inhabited by salmon and steelhead.

The Aquatic Conservation Strategy drives fish habitat management. Riparian Reserve management is a key element of management which is intended to maintain or enhance the fisheries potential of streams and other waters consistent with BLM's Fish and Wildlife 2000 Plan, the Bring Back the Natives initiative, and other nationwide initiatives. This management is also intended to promote the rehabilitation and protection of at-risk fish stocks and their habitat.

Priority for fish habitat enhancement projects will be given to watersheds supporting at-risk fish species and stocks and those requiring extensive restoration. Actions will be taken to rehabilitate streams and other waters to enhance natural populations of anadromous and resident fish. Possible rehabilitation measures would include, but not be limited to, fish passage improvements, instream structures using boulders and log placement to create spawning and rearing habitat, placement of fine and coarse materials for over-wintering habitat, and establishment or release of riparian coniferous trees.

The combination of these measures will improve fish habitat on BLM-administered lands, but that improvement will occur slowly and continue for more than a century.

**Table 4. Special Status Species Found on BLM-Administered Lands.**

Planning Area Category	Number of Plant Species						Number of Animal Species					
	S	E	R	CB	M	KF	S	E	R	CB	M	KF
Federal Threatened	1	0	0	0	0	0	7	2	3	5	3	2
Federal Endangered	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	1	2	2	1	3
Federal Proposed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0
Federal Candidate	3	3	3	7	30	0	36	9	11	16	23	20
State Listed	1	3	2	1	2	1	8	5	4	6	3	27
Bureau Sensitive	4	2	1	4	2	1	2	2	1	10	1	29

S=Salern

E=Eugene

R=Roseburg

CB=Coos Bay

M=Medford

KF=Klamath Falls

# Special Status and ROD Special Attention Species Habitat

Table 4 shows the numbers of BLM special status plant and animal species that have been identified as inhabiting BLM-administered lands in each planning area.

Management will be designed to protect, manage and conserve federal listed and proposed species and their habitats to achieve their recovery in compliance with the Endangered Species Act, approved recovery plans, and bureau special status species policies. Management for the conservation of federal candidate and bureau sensitive species and their habitats will focus on not contributing to the need to list and to recover the species. Management for the conservation of state listed species and their habitats will be designed to assist the state in achieving management objectives.

Assessment species (which are of lesser concern, as they are more stable and abundant in Oregon) will be managed where possible so as to not elevate their status to any higher level of concern. ROD special attention species will also be managed so as not to elevate their status to any higher level of concern.

Community structure, species composition, and ecological processes of special status plant and animal habitat will be studied, maintained or restored.

BLM will consult or confer with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for any proposed action which may affect federal listed or proposed species or their critical or essential habitat. Based on the results of consultation, the proposed action will be modified, relocated, or abandoned. BLM will request technical assistance from one of those agencies for any proposed action which may affect federal candidate species or their habitat.

The term "ROD special attention species" refers to both species identified as "survey and manage" species and species for which "protection buffers" are identified in the ROD. The survey and manage provision of the ROD will be implemented within the ranges of its identified species and the particular habitats that they are known to occupy.

Protection buffers will be provided for specific rare and locally endemic species and ROD special attention species in the upland forest matrix and all habitats identified in the ROD.

Establishment of Late Successional Reserves and other general allocations provide the framework for protection of the northern spotted owl. In addition, 100 acres of the best northern spotted owl habitat as close as possible to a nest site or owl activity center in the Matrix will be retained for all known (as of January 1, 1994) spotted owl activity centers.

BLM-administered lands would provide 907,000 acres of suitable (nesting, roosting and foraging) habitat after 10 years, a decline from the current 949,000 acres, but approximately 1.15 million acres after 50 years and 1.68 million acres after 100 years. BLM-administered lands are most important for support of northern spotted owls in the Coast Range, where current BLM-administrated suitable habitat is 295,000 acres, and would become 288,000 acres after 10 years and 422,000 and 694,000 acres after 50 and 100 years, respectively.

Table 5 shows the acreage and percent of BLM-administered forest land, by spotted owl province, that is currently and expected to be spotted owl habitat.

The *Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old-Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* (SEIS) identified a current total of 7.41 million acres of suitable northern spotted owl habitat, of which 3.86 million are in Oregon, with approximately 539,000 in the Oregon Coast Range. The respective acreages in ROD reserves and administratively withdrawn areas are 5.92 million (total), 2.83 million (Oregon) and 478,000 (Coast Range). These allocations and ROD standards and guidelines are expected to achieve recovery of the northern spotted owl.

As noted previously, Late-Successional Reserves include Late-Successional/Old Growth 1 and 2 areas in marbled murrelet Zone 1 and all occupied murrelet sites. In addition, contiguous existing and recruitment habitat for marbled murrelets (i.e., stands that are capable of becoming marbled murrelet habitat within 25 years), within a 0.5 mile radius of any site where the birds' behavior indicates occupation, will be protected.

BLM-administered lands would provide 346,000 acres of marbled murrelet habitat after 10 years, a slight decline from the current 357,000 acres, but there would be a substantial long term increase as existing mature stands age. The SEIS identified a total of 2.55 million acres of marbled murrelet nesting habitat in the region of which 965,000 million acres is in Oregon. The respective acreages in ROD re-

**Table 5. Current and Projected Spotted Owl Habitat (1,000 Acres) and Percent of BLM Forest Land**

Province	Existing		10 Years		50 Years		100 Years	
	M Ac.	%	M Ac.	%	M Ac.	%	M Ac.	%
Coast Range	295	39	288	38	422	56	694	92
West Cascades	281	44	263	41	297	46	422	66
East Cascades	18	39	18	37	16	35	20	41
Klamath	354	46	339	44	409	54	541	71
Total <sup>1</sup>	949	43	907	41	1146	52	1678	76

<sup>1</sup>Totals may not add, due to rounding

serves and administratively withdrawn areas are 2.27 million and 834,000. These allocations and ROD standards and guidelines provide a high likelihood of a marbled murrelet population well distributed on federal lands in the region.

To support the Pacific Bald Eagle Recovery Plan, all existing nest sites will be protected and additional lands will be excluded from timber harvest to maintain their potential to provide future nest sites.

## Special Areas

All but one existing Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) would be retained. The total number of ACECs would increase from 42 to 95. This would include 17 new Research Natural Areas (RNAs), which would increase the number of RNAs on BLM-administered land in western Oregon to 34.

## Cultural Resources Including American Indian Values

Cultural resource localities will continue to be identified and managed for public, scientific, and cultural heritage purposes.

Government to government and trust responsibilities to American Indian tribes regarding heritage and religious concerns will continue to be fulfilled.

## Visual Resources

About 29,000 acres protected by Congressional designation, and in other highly sensitive areas,

would be managed specifically for preservation of scenic quality. About 199,000 acres of other highly sensitive land would be managed so that landscape alterations caused by management would not attract attention, to retain scenic quality. An additional 583,000 acres of visually sensitive lands would be managed so that landscape alterations would not dominate the view and to partially retain scenic quality. Due to protection of lands in reserves and special management areas, scenic quality would be retained on most BLM-administered lands.

## Wild and Scenic Rivers

Ten river segments totaling 128 miles would be found suitable for potential designation by Congress under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. These segments are identified in Table 6. If designated by Congress, these river segments would be additions to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. About 609 other river miles found eligible for designation and studied by BLM would be found not suitable for such designation.

The present status of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System in western Oregon, and its relationship to the nationwide system, is summarized in Table 7.

## Rural Interface Areas

VRM Class III management and/or other special timber management practices would be applied on 195,000 acres of BLM-administered lands adjacent to or near private lands where county zoning allows for development on small (usually 1 to 20-acre) lots.

**Table 6. Suitable Wild and Scenic Rivers**

Planning Area	River Name	Segment Length Miles	Proposed Classification
Salem	Molalla River	12	Recreational
Salem	Nestucca River	15	Recreational
Eugene	McKenzie River	11	Recreational
Eugene	Siuslaw River, Segment B	46	Recreational
Eugene	Siuslaw River, Segment C	13	Recreational
Medford	Big Windy Creek	7	Wild
Medford	E. Fork Windy Creek	4	Wild
Medford	Dulog Creek	2	Wild
Medford	Howard Creek	7	Wild
Klamath Falls	Klamath River	11	Scenic

**Table 7. Wild and Scenic River Status and BLM Proposals**

	Number	Miles
Free-flowing segments found eligible by BLM	135	NA
Eligible segments deferred for later study	56	NA
Eligible segments studied by BLM and proposed to be found suitable for designation	11	131
Eligible segments studied and proposed to be found not suitable	68	609
USFS W. Oregon rivers to be studied	47 <sup>1</sup>	510
Existing river segments designated, W. Oregon	15 <sup>2</sup>	390 <sup>2</sup>
Existing river segments designated, Oregon total	47 <sup>2</sup>	1,657 <sup>2</sup>
Existing river segments designated, all states	184 <sup>2</sup>	10,614 <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Represents rivers found eligible through initial Forest planning or subsequent planning efforts. The numbers provided for the Forest Service are as of September 1994 and may change through further inventory.

<sup>2</sup>According to National Park Service, as of December 1993. Rivers are segmented only by management jurisdiction (e.g., BLM, USFS)

NA = Not applicable

## Socioeconomic Conditions

Through sustainable use of BLM-managed lands and resources and use of innovative contracting and other implementation strategies, contributions will be made to local, state, national and international economies. These management strategies will also provide amenities (e.g., recreation facilities, protected special areas, late-successional forests, and high quality fisheries) that enhance communities as places to live, work and visit.

BLM management programs would support an average of about 3,900 direct and indirect jobs and provide \$66 million a year in personal income in western Oregon during the life of the plans. Those jobs are 8,300 (68 percent) less than the average supported in the 1984-1988 period. Receipts shared with counties and other payments to local governments linked to resource sales are estimated to average about \$26 million a year, 59 percent below the average for 1984-1988. Current legislation, however, provides a "safety net" of guaranteed payments to the affected counties, to mitigate that decline.

Timber-industry jobs were 6.8 percent of all western Oregon jobs during the late 1980s. In non-metropolitan areas, however, they were 11.9 percent of all jobs, and much more in some communities. Each job within the timber industry supports approximately one other non-timber job. The net decline in jobs cited above is in addition to an expected decline in jobs that would be supported by combined future U.S. Forest Service, private and other timber supplies.

The cumulative western Oregon timber industry job decline caused by changing harvest levels on all ownerships would be approximately 25 percent from 1990 levels. This would entail substantial job losses in some western Oregon communities that have traditionally been highly dependent on timber industry jobs, with consequent adverse effects on community stability.

Jobs are also supported by downstream and offshore recreational and commercial fishing for fish supported by BLM habitat. However, fishing opportunities related to BLM management are not expected to change significantly in the next ten years, as the fish habitat improvement expected from the proposed plan will take place very slowly, and continue for more than 100 years.

## Recreation

Management will aim to provide a wide range of developed and dispersed recreation opportunities that contribute to meeting projected recreation demand within the planning area in a manner consistent with BLM's Recreation 2000 Implementation Plan and Oregon-Washington Public Lands Recreation initiative. Scenic, natural and cultural resources will be managed to enhance visitor recreation experiences and satisfy public land users. Locally-sponsored tourism initiatives and community economic strategies will be supported by providing recreation projects and programs that benefit both short- and long-term implementation.

Seventy-five existing recreation sites would remain open. Up to 110 additional sites would be constructed if funding is available. The emphasis of facility management and development would be to accommodate increasing demand for recreation opportunities close to population centers and accessible by road.

Thirty road segments (both BLM roads and county roads on BLM-administered lands) would be designated Back Country Byways, components of the National Scenic Byway System, in addition to the six segments already so designated.

As part of management of the use of off-highway vehicles, 77,000 acres would be closed to vehicle uses to protect special values. Use for administrative purposes and authorized removal of commercial commodities such as timber would be excepted. About 1.84 million acres would be open to limited use and 623,000 acres open without limitations.

Demand for all recreation activities would be expected to increase during the life of the RMP. Expected demand would be met for all activities except off-road travel. Demand for that use would be met in most of the planning areas.

## Timber Resources

Management will provide a sustainable supply of timber and other forest products.

Lands available for scheduled timber harvest are as follows:

<i>Land Use Allocation</i>	<i>Approx. Acres</i>
Matrix	
General Forest Management Areas (including visual resource management class II, rural interface, and TPCC restricted)	358,000
Connectivity/Diversity Blocks	79,000
Adaptive Management Areas (AMAs)	59,000

The annual Probable Sale Quantity (PSQ) from these Matrix and AMA allocations and the management planned for the Matrix (extrapolation of those management assumptions to the AMAs) is 35 million cubic feet (211 million board feet).

The PSQ above is less than the PSQ estimated for BLM in the SEIS for its alternative 9, although the PRMPs and SEIS alternative 9 are nearly identical. The SEIS PSQ for BLM is 201 million board feet (Scribner long log) which converts to 243 million board feet Scribner short log, the measure used for BLM's PSQ calculation. The difference is almost entirely attributable to BLM having time to account more fully (than the SEIS did) for intermittent first and second order streams in calculation of riparian reserve acreage. This difference is noted predominantly in the Coast Range, and particularly affects the PSQs in the Coos Bay and Salem districts. PSQ comparisons with the SEIS by plan, are shown in table 8.

This total is 81 percent below current plan allowable sale quantities (see table 9) and 83 percent below the average harvested in the 1984-1988 period. Annual timber harvests from all ownerships in western Oregon in the late 1990s would be expected to total 799 million cubic feet, 36 percent below those of the mid-1980s. Under the proposed plans, BLM would contribute 4.4 percent of this total, compared to about 16 percent during 1984-1988. A million

**Table 8. PRMP PSQs by Plan**

Plan	PSQs (Million board feet, Scribner short log)	
	BLM PRMP	SEIS Alt. 9
Salem	35	44
Eugene	36	39
Coos Bay	32	52
Roseburg	45	46
Medford	57	60
Klamath Falls	6	4

board feet would provide enough wood to build about 100 houses or supply the paper for a year's supply of a newspaper serving a local publication of about 100,000.

The Probable Sale Quantity (PSQ) for the PRMPs is an estimate of annual average timber sale volume likely to be achieved from lands allocated to planned, sustainable harvest. The use of PSQ, rather than "Allowable Sale Quantity" (ASQ) recognizes uncertainties in the estimate, and that timber harvest is an effect of overall forest management rather than a target that drives management. Harvest of this approximate volume of timber is considered sustainable over the long term based on the assumptions that the available land base remains fixed, and that funding is sufficient to make planned investments in timely reforestation, plantation maintenance, thinning, genetic selection, forest fertilization, timber sale planning, related forest resource protection, and monitoring.

The PSQ represents neither a minimum level that must be met nor a maximum level that cannot be exceeded. It is an approximation because of the difficulty associated with predicting actual timber sale levels over the next decade, given the complex nature of many of the standards and guidelines. It represents BLM's best assessment of the average amount of timber likely to be awarded annually in the planning area over the life of the plan, following a start-up period. The actual sustainable timber sale level attributable to the land-use allocations and management direction of the PRMPs may deviate by as much as 20 percent from the identified PSQ. As inventories, watershed analysis and site-specific planning proceed in conformance with management direction, the knowledge gained will permit refine-

ment of the ASQs to be declared when plan decisions are made.

Logging systems will be selected based on the suitability and economic efficiency of each system for the successful implementation of the silvicultural prescription, for protection of soil and water quality, and for meeting other land use objectives.

Regeneration harvests will be scheduled to assure that, over time, harvest would occur in stands at or above the age of volume growth culmination (i.e., culmination of mean annual increment). This refers to the age range which produces maximum average annual growth over the lifetime of a timber stand. On these lands culmination occurs between 60 and 110 years of age.

Silvicultural treatments and harvest designs will be based on the functional characteristics of the ecosystem and on the characteristics of each forest stand and site. Treatments will be designed, as much as possible, to prevent the development of undesirable species composition, or species dominance, or other undesirable stand characteristics. The principles of integrated pest management and integrated vegetation management will be employed to avoid the need for direct treatments. Herbicides would be used only as a last resort.

Harvest of marketable hardwood stands will be planned in the same manner as conifer stands, if the land is not otherwise constrained from timber management. Volume from projected hardwood harvest is included in the probable sale quantity estimate. Where hardwood trees became established following previous harvest of conifers, reestablishing a conifer stand on the site will be planned.

Unscheduled harvests will occur from thinning and salvage in Late-Successional Reserves and may occur from salvage in Riparian Reserves.

## Special Forest Products

BLM will manage for the production and sale of Special Forest Products (SFPs) when demand is present and where actions taken are consistent with the primary objectives for the land use allocation. The principles of ecosystem management will be used to guide the management and harvest of special forest products.

## Energy and Minerals

Management will maintain exploration and development opportunities for leasable and locatable energy and mineral resources.

Most BLM-administered lands would remain available for mineral leasing of oil and gas or geothermal resources and the location of mining claims, but a variety of designations and allocations such as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, Late-Successional Reserves, and Riparian Reserves, restrict exploration and development.

## Land Tenure Adjustments

Land tenure adjustments will benefit a variety of uses and values, emphasizing opportunities that conserve biological diversity or enhance timber management opportunities. As a matter of practice, O&C forest lands allocated to timber management would only be exchanged for lands to be managed for multiple-use purposes.

Lands are categorized in three land tenure adjustment zones:

- **Zone 1:** Approximately 757,000 acres retained under BLM administration.
- **Zone 2:** Approximately 1,728,000 acres where land ownership may be “blocked up” in exchange for other lands in Zones 1 and 2 with significant resource values.
- **Zone 3:** Approximately 55,000 acres where only lands with unique resource values would be retained; other lands in this zone would be exchanged, sold or transferred to another agency using appropriate disposal mechanisms.

## Roads

Road management will correct problems associated with high road density by emphasizing the reduction of minor collector and local road densities where those problems exist. Roads will also be managed to meet the needs identified under other resource programs (e.g., seasonal road closures for wildlife).

## Monitoring the RMP

Monitoring and evaluation of the resource management plans will be carried out at appropriate intervals for the following purposes:

- To be sure activities are occurring in conformance with the RMPs.
- To determine if activities are producing the expected results.
- To determine if activities are causing the effects identified in the environmental impact statement.

## Cost of Management

The cost of the non-traditional forest management proposed in the PRMPs would differ from that of past management. Although much less timber would be sold under the PRMPs, ecosystem management generally, and the specific requirements for watershed analysis, Late-Successional Reserve assessments, Adaptive Management Area plans, and watershed restoration, entail new costs. The estimated annual cost of implementing the PRMPs is reflected in the President's fiscal year 1995 budget, which is approximately 106 million dollars (including the Jobs-in-the-Woods initiative). This compares to the 1993 budget (the last one based on implementation of existing plans) which, if adjusted for two years of inflation, would have been 85 million dollars.

## Public Involvement

Public involvement has been an integral part of BLM's resource management planning effort. Activities have included mailers or brochures, public meetings, open houses, field trips, distribution of planning documents and related comment periods, informal contacts, group meetings, written letters, and responses to comments.

Mailers requested comments on issue identification, development of planning criteria contained in State Director guidance for the process, and each district's analysis of the management situation which set the baseline for development of each Draft RMP/EIS. Suggestions for formulation of each preferred alternative were also requested.

The six Draft RMP/EISs were released for public review and comment in 1992. Comments were

evaluated and some substantive recommendations led to changes in the Proposed RMPs and the analyses of environmental consequences. Comments on each PRMP sent directly to the District Manager will be considered in formulating their decision. Any protests to the Director of BLM will be reviewed and addressed before a record of decision on an RMP is completed.

## Monitoring the RMP

Monitoring the status of the RMP/EIS process is a key component of the BLM's planning process. The BLM's monitoring system is designed to ensure that the RMP/EIS process is completed in a timely and effective manner.

The BLM's monitoring system is designed to ensure that the RMP/EIS process is completed in a timely and effective manner. The BLM's monitoring system is designed to ensure that the RMP/EIS process is completed in a timely and effective manner.

## Cost of Management

The cost of the RMP/EIS process is a key component of the BLM's planning process. The BLM's cost of management system is designed to ensure that the RMP/EIS process is completed in a timely and effective manner.

## Public Involvement

Public involvement is a key component of the BLM's planning process. The BLM's public involvement system is designed to ensure that the RMP/EIS process is completed in a timely and effective manner.

## Energy and Minerals

Management of energy and minerals resources is a key component of the BLM's planning process. The BLM's energy and minerals management system is designed to ensure that the RMP/EIS process is completed in a timely and effective manner.

## Land Tenure Adjustments

Land tenure adjustments are a key component of the BLM's planning process. The BLM's land tenure adjustment system is designed to ensure that the RMP/EIS process is completed in a timely and effective manner.





ER'S CARD

17 1994

Land  
Oregon State  
Executive summary western  
Oregon proposed resource

OFFICE	DATE RETURNED

(Continued on reverse)

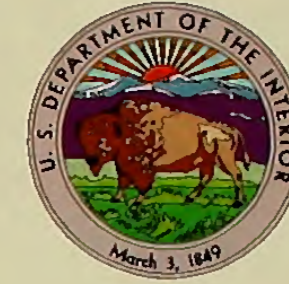
HD 243 .07 0747 1994  
U. S. Bureau of Land  
Management. Oregon State  
Executive summary western  
Oregon proposed resource

BLM LIBRARY  
RS 150A BLDG. 50  
DENVER FEDERAL CENTER  
PO BOX 25047  
DENVER, CO 80225

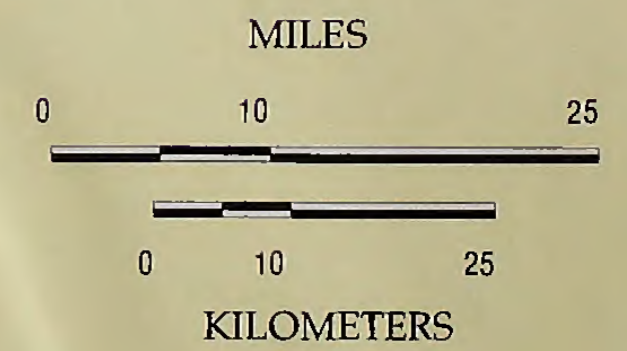
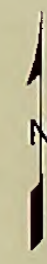
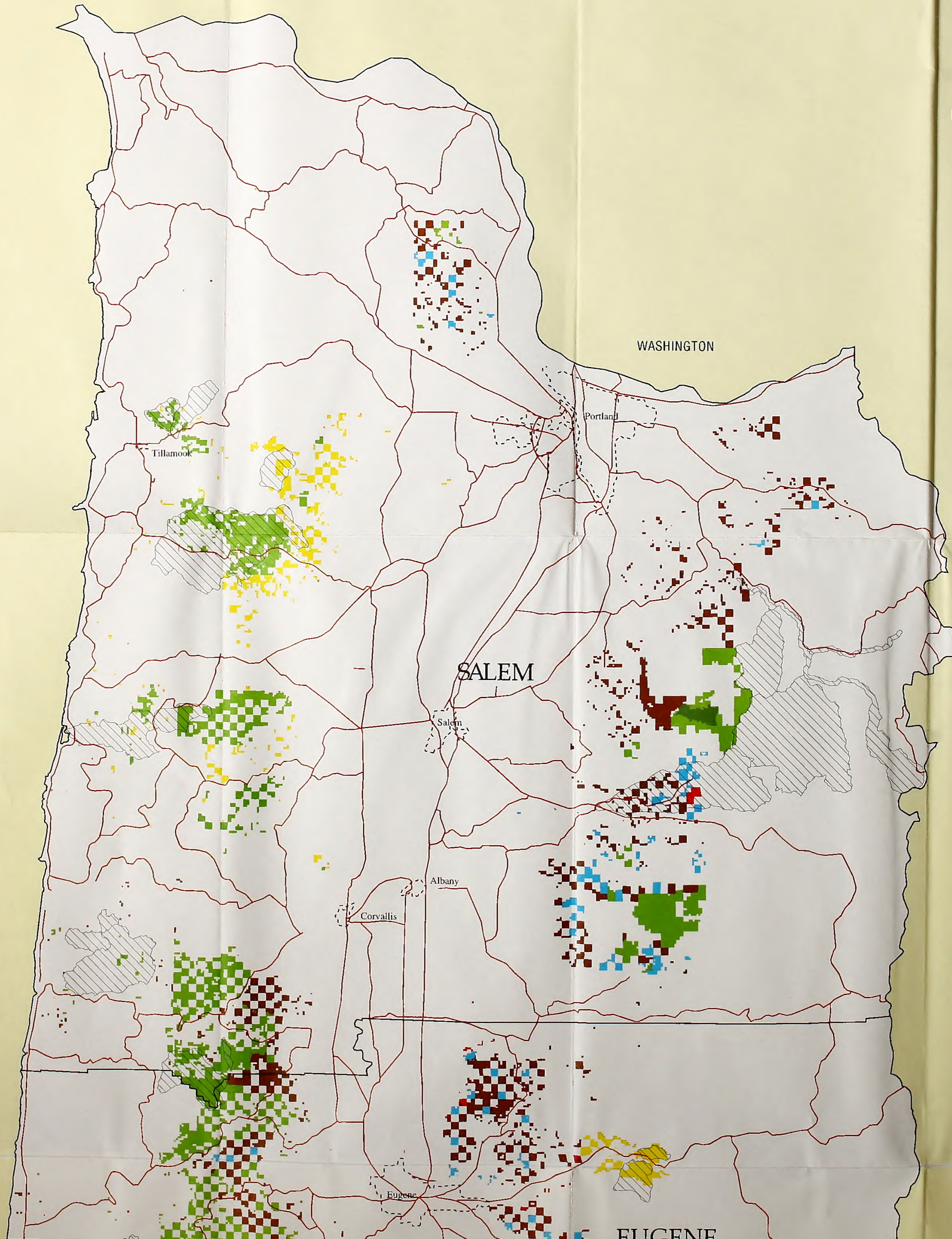
BLM LIBRARY  
RS 150A BLDG. 50  
DENVER FEDERAL CENTER  
P.O. BOX 25047  
DENVER, CO 80225

# MAP 2-1: Western Oregon Planning Strategy

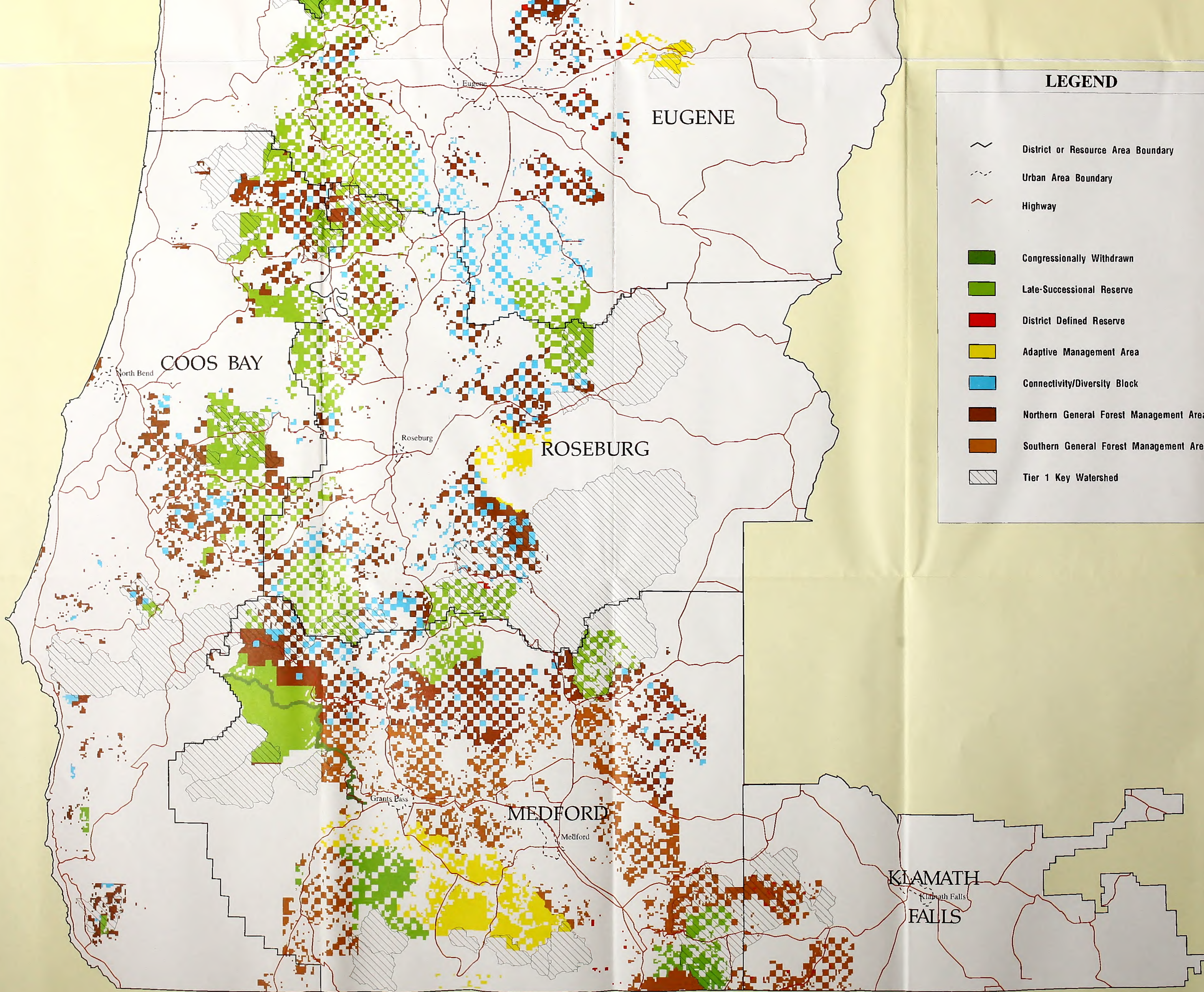
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
Bureau of Land Management



## 1994 PRMP/FEIS



### LEGEND



**LEGEND**

-  District or Resource Area Boundary
-  Urban Area Boundary
-  Highway
-  Congressionally Withdrawn
-  Late-Successional Reserve
-  District Defined Reserve
-  Adaptive Management Area
-  Connectivity/Diversity Block
-  Northern General Forest Management Area
-  Southern General Forest Management Area
-  Tier 1 Key Watershed

CALIFORNIA

**UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

**OREGON STATE OFFICE**

**P. O. Box 2965**

**Portland, Oregon 97208**

**OFFICIAL BUSINESS**

**PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300**

**FORWARDING AND ADDRESS  
CORRECTION REQUESTED**

**FIRST CLASS MAIL  
POSTAGE & FEES PAID  
Bureau of Land Management  
Permit No. G-76**